12th March 1929]

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" There is a report that the second crop in the Palghat taluk has completely failed. May I know whether the Government will call for a report and do the needful ? The answer to the question is in the negative and that is the necessity for calling for a report. I am asking the hon. Revenue Member whether he will at least make an inquiry of his Colleague in the Executive Council who belongs to the Palghat taluk with regard to the necessity for doing something in the matter ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The suggestion 'to do the needful' does not appear in the question."

Minor Irrigation

Conservation of rain water in Malabar and South Kanara for cultivation purposes.

* 1715 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the possibilities of conserving rain water in Malabar and South Kanara for cultivation purposes by means of minor irrigation works have ever been investigated ; and

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to do it hereafter ?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 616 on 24th March 1925

(b) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know from the hon. the Revenue Member whether the question regarding the scope for minor irrigation work in South Kanara has ever been examined ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I should very much doubt it, Sir."

Survey

Refusal of permission to quarry stones by the Zamindar of Surangy.

* 1716 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the Zamindar of Surangy (Ganjam) refused permission to Mr. W. V. B. Ramalingam, contractor of the Survey Party No. V, to quarry stones from certain hillocks within the Zamindari on payment of seigniorage in connexion with the survey operations sanctioned by the Government on the application of the ryots under section 164 of Estates Land Act ; and

(b) the action that is proposed to be taken ?

A.—(a) The Government have not heard of the incident. The Government claim no mining rights in permanently-settled estates and know of no law under which the owner of such an estate can be compelled to allow quarrying by a Government contractor.

(b) The question is not understood.